

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 068626
ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 AF-08 ARA-06
EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 ABF-01
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, AORG

SUBJECT: WFP: MEETINGS WITH WORLD FOOD PROGRAM EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR ROBINSON

REFS: STATE 40755 AND 43394

1. DURING RECENT VISIT TO WASHINGTON ROBINSON MET WITH
REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE, AID, AGRICULTURE, AND OMB. HE
EXPLAINED HIS PROPOSAL FOR DOLLARS 950 MILLION 1979/80
PLEDGE TARGET, USING AS JUSTIFICATION MULTI-YEAR COMMIT-
MENTS, LARGE VOLUME OF PROJECTS IN PIPELINE AND NEED FOR
GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN RESOURCE USE, I.E., TO SUPPLY
RESERVE SCHEMES. WE CONTINUE TO FEEL HIS REASONING A BIT
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PAGE 02 STATE 068626

TENUOUS.

2. ROBINSON INDICATED TARGET IN PART PREDICATED ON
ASSUMPTION THAT FAC WILL NOT RPT NOT BE RENEWED IN 1978
(A DOUBTFUL ASSUMPTION). IN SOME TALKS, ROBINSON INDICATED
FAC RENEWAL WOULD PERMIT TARGET DOLLARS 75 MILLION LOWER.
PRIVATELY, HE ADMITTED THERE SENTIMENT WITHIN PROGRAM FOR

LOWER TARGET, IN DOLLARS 850 OR DOLLARS 900 MILLION AREA.

3. WITH NO APPARENT ASSURANCES ROBINSON ASSUMES MAJOR DONORS WILL CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE SAME PROPORTION. HE ALSO HOPES SAUDI ARABIA WILL CONTINUE SUPPORT (I.E., DOLLARS 50 MILLION CASH) AND IS HOPEFUL FOR SOMETHING FROM ARAB EMIRATES AND FRANCE. HE INDICATED TO IO ASSISTANT SECRETARY DESIGNATE MAYNES THAT ONLY THE U.S. HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER PROJECTED TARGET LEVEL.

4. ON QUESTION OF CFA CHAIRMANSHIP, ROBINSON DECLINED TO HAVE SECRETARIAT TAKE ACTIVE ROLE IN PROMOTING ANY SPECIFIC CANDIDATE. ON SUBJECT OF DRAFT RULES, IO STRESSED USG'S STRONG INTEREST IN AVOIDING CONTROVERSIAL REOPENING OF WORKING GROUP DRAFT.

5. FODAG SHOULD BEGIN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS TO DETERMINE ATTITUDES OF OTHER MAJOR DONORS ON TARGET. YOU SHOULD DRAW ON RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED REFTELS AS INDICATION OF U.S. CONCERNS. YOU MAY ALSO INDICATE THAT DOLLARS 850 - DOLLARS 900 MILLION LEVEL ALLUDED TO BY ROBINSON REMAINS A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE, BUT IS MORE REALISTIC STARTING POINT FOR CFA DISCUSSION. THERE ALSO IS URGENT NEED TO CEMENT CONSENSUS ON CHAIRMAN/VICE CHAIRMAN QUESTION. WE CONTINUE TO PREFER ALPEN OR GRIFFIN AND KNOW EITHER WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO SECRETARIAT. IF DEVELOPED COUNTRY PERMREPS UNABLE TO CONVINCE SECRETARIAT TO TAKE LEAD, THEY SHOULD AT LEAST COME TO AGREEMENT AMONG THEMSELVES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 068626

ON CANDIDATE. WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR VIEWS ON LATEST G-77 STANCE ON CFA CHAIRMANSHIP QUESTION. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 28-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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